

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A filter for a tobacco smoke inhaling/ generating/ producing device, the said filter ~~comprising~~ having three sections placed longitudinally one after another, wherein comprising:

a first section comprising cellulose acetate fiber ~~having length in the range of 10 to 14 mm~~, acting as a mouth piece;

a second section comprising requisite amounts of specific mesh sizes of length ~~ranging between 4.5 to 35 mm~~ comprising activated charcoal ~~particle / mixture~~ selected from the group consisting of charcoal particles having mesh size of BS 25/44, BS 44/52, BS 52/60, BS 60/72, BS 72/85, and 85/100 ~~having grain size ranging between 25 mesh to 100 mesh~~ any combinations thereof for effectively reducing p-benzosemiquinone, ~~protein oxidation, nicotine delivery~~ a highly reactive major harmful oxidant from the mainstream of cigarette ~~said tobacco~~ smoke; and

a third section comprising cellulose acetate fiber located closer to the tobacco portion of the cigarette ~~of length ranging between 2 to 3 mm~~, also acting as a barrier between the activated charcoal and tobacco.

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53. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of the first section is in the range of 10 to 14 mm.

54. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of the second section is dependent on the mesh size and / or amount of charcoal used.

55. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of the second section is in the range of 4.5 mm to 35mm consisting of one or more activated charcoal particles.

56. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length of the third section is in the range of 2 to 3 mm.

57. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein all the three sections are linearly joined together in succession using a thin wall tube made of light material selected from the group consisting of thin wall plastic tube, paper, plastic wrapped paper and aluminum foil.

58. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein requisite amounts of specific mesh the activated charcoal ranging between BS 44/52 and BS 72/85 mesh are placed in a void space between the sections of cellulose acetate filters namely the mouthpiece and the barrier.

59. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of charcoal used is in the range between 0.1g and 0.3 g, depending on the specific mesh sizes ranging between BS 44/52 and BS 72/85 mesh.

60. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein each charcoal bed of length 5.0+ 0.5 mm is packed with 0.1 g of charcoal granules.

61. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.2 g of the mesh size BS (British standard mesh) 44/52.

62. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.3 g of the mesh size BS 44/52.

63. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.2 g of the mesh size BS 52/60.

64. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.3 g of the mesh size BS 52/60.

65. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.15 g of the mesh size BS 60/72.

66. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.2 g of the mesh size BS 60/72.

67. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.1 g of the mesh size BS 72/85.

68. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal particle consists of 0.15 g of the mesh size BS 72/85.

69. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.2 g of mesh size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 52/60.

70. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.2 g of mesh size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 60/72.

71. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.1 g of mesh size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

72. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.2 g of mesh size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

73. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.15 g of mesh size BS 44/52 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

74. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.1 g of mesh size BS 52/60 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 60/72.

75. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.1 g of mesh size BS 52/60 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

76. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.1 g of mesh size BS 60/72 and 0.1 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

77. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.1 g of mesh size BS 52/60 and 0.05 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

78. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the activated charcoal used consists of 0.1 g of mesh size BS 60/72 and 0.05 g of mesh size BS 72/85.

79. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said filter inhibits p-benzosemiquinone (p-BSQ) of the mainstream smoke up to 85 percent.

80. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said filter inhibits protein oxidation, as evidenced by carbonyl formation in BSA by the mainstream smoke up to 89 percent.

81. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, said filter reduces nitric oxide (NO) of the mainstream of smoke up to 68 percent.

82. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein nicotine delivery in the mainstream of smoke is reduced from 935 µg to 350-400 µg in a cigarette.

83. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein use of nicotine fortified tobacco results in increased delivery of nicotine without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

84. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 83, wherein tobacco fortified with 2 to 4 mg of nicotine increases the nicotine delivery without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

85. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 83, wherein tobacco fortified with 2 to 4 mg of nicotine increases the nicotine delivery in the main stream smoke from 350-400 µg to 575-700 µg without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

86. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 85, wherein nicotine fortified tobacco with 2 to 4 mg of nicotine, delivers nicotine up to 90% without increasing the level of p-BSQ.

87. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mainstream smoke solution is incapable of producing significant oxidative damage to guinea pig lung microsomal proteins *in vitro*.

88. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said filter comprising requisite amounts of charcoal particles having mesh size ranging between BS 44/52 to BS 72/85 mesh is proportionate to the length of the device.

89. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said filter comprising requisite amounts of charcoal particles having sizes ranging between BS 44/52 mesh to BS 72/85 mesh, which is proportionate to effectively reducing the level of p-benzosemiquinone (p-BSQ), a highly reactive major harmful oxidant, from the mainstream smoke while providing comfortable mouthful of smoke and nicotine delivery.

90. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said filter is used in smoking devices selected from group consisting of cigarettes, cigarette holders, pipes and any other smoking devices.

91. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein said smoking device has activated charcoal for effectively reducing p-BSQ of the mainstream tobacco smoke, and wherein said filter is incorporated into a filter of a tobacco smoking device such as a cigarette, cigar, pipe or in a separate filter through which tobacco smoke passes before the process of inhaling.

92. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein p-BSQ of the mainstream tobacco smoke is reduced significantly.

93. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the smoke from charcoal filter cigarettes exhaled by smokers containing markedly low level of –BSQ is potentially less hazardous to passive smokers.

94. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mainstream smoke solution is incapable of producing significant oxidative damage to guinea pig lung microsomal proteins *in vitro*.

95. (New) The filter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mainstream smoke containing very low level of p-BSQ is incapable of producing significant oxidative damage to the lung microsomal proteins of guinea pigs when said guinea pigs are exposed to smoke emitted from said charcoal-filtered tobacco smoke devices in contrast to marked damage of the lung tissue when the guinea pigs are exposed to smoke from tobacco smoke devices without having the charcoal filter.